

## Message Text

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60

ORIGIN AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 L-03 USIE-00 AID-05 SY-05 OPR-02

OC-05 CCO-00 FBO-02 A-01 FAA-00 DOTE-00 PM-03 NSC-05

SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00

DODE-00 INRE-00 CPR-01 H-02 PA-01 PRS-01 /079 R

DRAFTED BY AF/W:GHMITCHELL/JKBISHOP/MPH

APPROVED BY AF:AMBASSADOR DAVIS

L/AF:MR.ROHWER

AF/EX:MR. KRYZA

USIA:HDAWSON (INFO)

AID/AFR/CWA:JWILSON (INFO)

----- 120021

O 100002Z JUL 75 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LAGOS NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMCONSUL IBADAN IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL KADUNA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 161596

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AFSP, PFOR, NI

SUBJECT: FMG OCCUPATION OF EMBASSY ANNEX

REF: LAGOS 6488

BRUSSELS FOR FAA

1. AS SUGGESTED REFTTEL, ASST SECY DAVIS AT NOON TODAY  
CALLED IN NIGERIAN CHARGE D'AFFAIRES EMMANUEL OBE (IN  
LIEU OF GARBA WHO VACATIONING IN NIGERIA). DAVIS TOLD  
OBE DEPARTMENT VERY MUCH SURPRISED BY THESE DISTURBING  
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DEVELOPMENTS, WHICH WE COULD ONLY INTERPRET AS A VIOLATION

OF THE DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY OF OUR CHANCERY IN LAGOS. IT WAS MADE CLEAR THAT WE HOPE FOR AND EXPECT IMMEDIATE WITHDRAWAL OF TROOPS.

2. DAVIS EXPLAINED OUR UNDERSTANDING OF FMG DESIRE TO ACQUIRE THE PROPERTY, OUR READINESS TO NEGOTIATE, AND OUR AWARENESS THAT NEGOTIATIONS HAVE BEEN TAKING PLACE. IT WAS FURTHER EXPLAINED THAT NOTWITHSTANDING OUR VALID LEASE ON THE PROPERTY, WE HAVE NEGOTIATED IN GOOD FAITH FOR SUITABLE ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS. WE WOULD HOPE TO PROCEED VIA SATISFACTORY NEGOTIATIONS, RATHER THAN BY CONFRONTATION.

3. DAVIS TOLD OBE AN INCIDENT OF THIS KIND, WHICH UNDOUBTEDLY WOULD REACH THE NEWS MEDIA, COULD HAVE AN UNFORTUNATE EFFECT ON AMERICAN PUBLIC ATTITUDES TOWARDS NIGERIA, ADDING THAT WE PLACE THE GREATEST IMPORTANCE ON OUR RELATIONS AND THINK IT ALL THE MORE IMPORTANT THAT THE FMG ACT IMMEDIATELY SO THAT THIS SITUATION NOT GO ON AND BUILD UP AS A PUBLIC CONFRONTATION.

4. OBE REPLIED THAT SINCE HE WAS HEARING OF THE INCIDENT FOR THE FIRST TIME, AS YET HE HAD NO INSTRUCTIONS FROM LAGOS. HE APPRECIATED THE DEPTH OF USG FEELING, ESPECIALLY VIS-A-VIS THE DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY OF OUR CHANCERY. HE RECALLED THAT AMBASSADOR EASUM HAD DISCUSSED THE MATTER WITH IYALLA LAST MONTH, THAT BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS THIS SUBJECT WERE OF LONG STANDING, THAT FMG VIEWS WERE WELL KNOWN AND THAT ALTERNATIVE QUARTERS HAD INDEED BEEN OFFERED. OBE VOLUNTEERED, IN TAKING LEAVE, THAT HE COULD NOT BELIEVE TROOPS WERE SENT UNDER GOVERNMENT ORDER AND PROMISED TO SEEK A REPORT FROM LAGOS, THE SUBSTANCE OF WHICH WOULD BE SHARED WITH US.

5. OBE LATER TELEPHONED TO REPORT CONVERSATION WITH IYALLA, WHO SAID THAT AT 4:40 P.M. LAGOS TIME, FOLLOWING CABINET MEETING, COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF ORDERED WITHDRAWAL OF TROOPS. OBE SAID HE BELIEVED TROOPS HAD BEEN WITH-  
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DRAWN AND EXPRESSED PERSONAL REGRET FOR THE SITUATION.

6. DEPARTMENT DELIVERED AIDE-MEMOIRE TO NIGERIAN EMBASSY TODAY. INGERSOLL

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY OCCUPATION, ARMED FORCES, EMBASSIES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 10 JUL 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** greeneet  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975STATE161596  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** GHMITCHELL/JKBISHOP/MPH  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750237-0681  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750768/aaaacjao.tel  
**Line Count:** 111  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN AF  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 LAGOS 6488  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** greeneet  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 22 APR 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <22 APR 2003 by SmithRJ>; APPROVED <15 DEC 2003 by greeneet>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
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**Review Referrals:** n/a  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FMG OCCUPATION OF EMBASSY ANNEX  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PDIP, US, NI  
**To:** LAGOS  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006